

THE VIRGIN ISLANDS WATER & POWER AUTHORITY CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS

NEWS RELEASE

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WAPA Provides Update on Geographic Information Systems Deployment

U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS – The Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority ("WAPA" or "Authority") would like to provide an update to customers and community members regarding the ongoing Geographic Information Systems Inventory project for the Authority's Transmission and Distribution Department. Geographic Information Systems (GIS) will aid in assessments for disaster recovery, accelerate response time to system problems, offer asset tracking, load monitoring, and system analysis. Technicians from Davey Resource Group (Davey), a subcontractor for the project and a national leader in gathering accurate field data for utilities, will be visiting all the Authority's Transmission and Distribution assets including WAPA poles, meters, and padmount equipment.

On St. Croix this week from **September 11-16, 2023,** manhole inspections will occur on Northside Road from Route 75 North to Rattan Road and Rattan Road West to Route 81 near Sion Hill. The southbound lane will be closed in short sections of this route with flaggers posted to direct thru traffic.

Other areas where Davey personnel will be this week include:

- West Christiansted/Christiansted Harbor: Neighborhoods surrounding Christiansted Harbor, West of Christiansted
- Island Center Road (Claude A. Benjamin Memorial Drive): Rattan and Belvedere north to Sunny Isle (Melvin H. Evans Highway intersection) south.
- **East End Road**: From Christiansted bypass through the Buccaneer Golf Course.
- West Christiansted Harbor
- Altona Lagoon: North of East End Road
- East Grange Area: South of Christiansted bypass in neighborhoods sast of Grange and south of Contentment
- Golden Rock Area



Overhead Route 11: Audits will be performed on the main route on East End Road starting from the Buccaneer Hotel entrance and ending at the Southgate Great Pond Road intersection. The audit will also include the neighboring Buccaneer area consisting of the Shoy and Annas Hope community.



Overhead Route 12: Audits will be performed on the main route on Claude A. Benjamin Memorial Drive starting in Rattan and continuing towards Sunny Isles, ending at the Queen Mary Highway intersection in front of the WAPA Business office in Sunny Isles.



Underground Location 4: Audits will be performed on the main route on North Shore Road starting from Golden Rock stoplight towards 5 Corners, continuing west on Rattan Road then on to Sion Valley Road ending in the vicinity of the Free Will Baptist School.

Traffic will be flagged in sections along these roads for short periods. The Davey Resource Group technicians will be using video cameras and other devices during the field inventory and can be identified by their WAPA Contractor ID badges, safety vests, and a Letter of Authority (available upon request). All residents, business owners, and local authorities are asked to provide full cooperation during the inventory project. Any questions concerning the project may be directed to Ambi Blyden, Interim Planning and Design Manager at 340-774-3552 extension 2270, or ambi.blyden@viwapa.vi.

The Authority thanks the community for its understanding, as we work to enhance our capabilities to provide quality service.

The Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority Communication's department is committed to reaching, informing, and connecting with the youngest members of the community to the eldest, through meaningful, transparent and effective communication.

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About WAPA: The Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority is an autonomous agency of the Virgin Islands Government which produces and distributes electricity and drinking water to residential and commercial customers in the territory. WAPA was created by the Fifth Legislature of the Virgin Islands in 1964 through Act No. 1248. Today, WAPA generates electrical power at production plants on St. Thomas and St. Croix and distributes electrical service through smart grids to customers on St. Thomas, St. Croix, St. John, Hassel Island, and Water Island. Potable water is distributed to almost 13,000 customers through water lines and standpipes. WAPA also has the responsibility of installing and maintaining streetlights.

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